

COUNTY COUNCIL  
OF  
HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

BILL NO. 77-29 (as amended)

Introduced by Council President Freeman at request of County ExecutiveLegislative Day No. 77-7Date: March 1, 1977

AN ACT to repeal in their entirety Sections 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 240A, 241, 242, 243, 244, 244A, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252 and 253 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Harford County (1965 Edition, as amended), heading, Harford County, subheading, Electrical Examiners, and to repeal Section 474A.(c) of the Code of Public Local Laws of Harford County (1965 Edition, as amended), heading, Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits, subheading, Electrical Board, and to enact in lieu thereof a new Chapter 8A, heading, Electricity, to be added to the Harford County Code; and to add Article 1, heading, General Provisions, Article 2, heading, Board of Electrical Examiners, Article 3, heading, Licenses, Article 4, heading, Permits, Article 5, heading, Inspections, and Article 6, heading, Standards and Requirements for Installation of Electrical Equipment, to said Chapter 8A, said Chapter and Articles to provide generally for requirements for the installation, repair and maintenance of electrical installations and equipment within the County; rulemaking procedures for executive rules and regulations adopted pursuant to specific authority granted in this Chapter, administrative and enforcement authority; unlawful maintenance of installations; activities; general standards applicable for all electrical installations and equipment within the County; penalties for violating provisions of this Chapter and its rules and regulations; authority for emergency

By the Council, March 1, 1977

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled

on: April 5, 1977at: 7:30 P.M.By Order: Angela Marlowski, Secretary

## PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and Notice of time and place of hearing and Title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on April 5, 1977 and concluded on April 5, 1977.

Angela Marlowski, Secretary77-29  
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BILL NO.

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AS AMENDED

COUNTY COUNCIL

OF

HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Introduced by \_\_\_\_\_

Legislative Day No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

disconnections; the Board of Electrical Examiners, its composition and related duties and responsibilities; licensing procedures for electrical contractors, master electricians, limited electricians, restricted electricians, journeyman electricians; and registration of apprentice electricians; requirements for obtaining permits to install or repair electrical equipment and/or installations within the County; procedures for inspecting permitted installations within the County; specific authority delegated to the County Executive to adopt, subject to Council approval, detailed standards and requirements for electrical installations based upon a designated edition of the National Electrical Code; and generally relating to electrical installations in Harford County, Maryland.

By the Council, \_\_\_\_\_

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled

on: \_\_\_\_\_

at: \_\_\_\_\_

By Order: \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary

## PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and Notice of time and place of hearing and Title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on \_\_\_\_\_ and concluded on \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_, Secretary

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BILL NO. AS AMENDED

1 Section 1. *Be It Enacted By The County Council Of Harford County,*  
2 *Maryland,* that Sections 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 240A, 241,  
3 242, 243, 244, 244A, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252 and  
4 253 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Harford County (1965  
5 Edition, as amended), heading, Harford County, subheading,  
6 Electrical Examiners, be, and they are hereby repealed, and that  
7 Section 474A.(c) of the Code of Public Local Laws of Harford County  
8 (1965 Edition, as amended), heading, Department of Inspections,  
9 Licenses and Permits, subheading, Electrical Board, be, and it  
10 is hereby repealed, and that new Chapter 8A, heading, Electricity,  
11 be, and it is hereby added to the Harford County Code, and  
12 that Article 1, heading, General Provisions, Article 2, heading,  
13 Board of Electrical Examiners, Article 3, heading, Licenses,  
14 Article 4, heading, Permits, Article 5, heading, Inspections,  
15 and Article 6, heading, Standards and Requirements for Installa-  
16 tion of Electrical Equipment, be, and they are hereby added to  
17 said Chapter 8A, to stand in place of the Sections repealed, all to  
18 read as follows:

19 CHAPTER 8A. ELECTRICITY.

20 ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

21 Section 8A-1. Scope and Applicability of Chapter.

22 (a) Except as otherwise provided, the provisions of this  
23 Chapter shall apply to all electrical equipment and the  
24 installation thereof for light, heat or power within or on public  
25 or private buildings, structures or premises, including yards,  
26 carnivals and parking lots, and industrial substations, and all  
27 electrical equipment and those other items, equipment and  
28 installations covered by the duly adopted edition of the National  
29 Electrical Code. Except that extensions, modifications or  
30 additions to any existing raceway, cable, wiring conductor or  
31 panel that is to be completed by a person duly licensed under the  
32 provisions of this Chapter are exempt from the electrical permit

1 requirements only, as otherwise required by this Chapter.

2 (b) The provisions of this Chapter shall not apply to  
3 any electrical work or equipment installed by or for any electric  
4 company, telegraph or telephone company, where such electrical  
5 work or equipment if owned and maintained by such company and is  
6 an integral part of the plant or service used by such company in  
7 rendering its service to the public.

8 (c) The provisions of this Chapter shall not apply to  
9 installations in ships or railway cars or to automobile equipment.

10 (d) The provisions of this Chapter shall not apply to  
11 installations or equipment employed by the United States  
12 Government.

13 Section 8A-2. Rules and Regulations.

14 (a) The Director may recommend written rules and  
15 regulations for the administration of the provisions of this  
16 Chapter. Such rules and regulations and amendments thereto shall  
17 not conflict with nor waive any provisions of this Chapter nor be  
18 less restrictive than its provisions and shall become effective  
19 upon their adoption by the County in accordance with procedures set  
20 forth in Section 807 of the Charter of Harford County, Maryland.

21 Section 8A-3. Standards Applicable.

22 (a) The National Electrical Code, including all  
23 appendices, (1975 Edition), as adopted by the National Fire  
24 Protection Association, Electrical Section, is hereby adopted as  
25 the Harford County Electrical Code and incorporated by reference  
26 thereto and is made a part of this Chapter with the same force  
27 and effect as though set out in full herein save and except such  
28 changes, amendments, revisions, deletions, substitutions and  
29 additions as are specified in this Chapter. All electrical  
30 installations and equipment shall meet the standards and requirements  
31 set forth by the National Electrical Code and this Chapter or rules  
32 and regulations established in accordance with this Chapter.

1 Section 8A-4. Administration and Enforcement of Chapter.

2 (a) This Chapter shall be administered and enforced by  
3 the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits, hereinafter  
4 referred to as the Department.

5 Section 8A-5. Right of Entry of Departmental Personnel.

6 (a) The Director or his authorized representative upon  
7 exhibiting proper credentials or proof of identity on request  
8 shall have the right to enter any building, structure or premises,  
9 except private residences, without consent of the occupants, at  
10 any time during business or operating hours, and at such other  
11 times as may be necessary in any emergency that immediately  
12 endangers life, property or public safety, for the purpose of  
13 performing duties under this Chapter or enforcing the provisions  
14 thereof. In the case of multiple dwellings, the Director or  
15 his authorized representatives shall have the right to enter  
16 without consent only those spaces to which the public is  
17 ordinarily admitted, such as hallways, basements and similar  
18 spaces; provided however, that such authorities may enter any  
19 private residence or dwelling for the purpose of enforcing this  
20 Chapter with the consent of the occupants thereof, or without such  
21 consent if they shall first obtain a search warrant in  
22 accordance with prescribed legal procedure, or if there is a  
23 present emergency such as a fire, explosion or the like or  
24 immediately following such emergency.

25 Section 8A-6. Unlawful Maintenance of Installations.

26 (a) In the case of any electrical installation for which  
27 a permit is required under this Chapter, it shall be unlawful for  
28 any person to maintain or allow to be maintained such electrical  
29 installation if it was installed after the effective date of  
30 this Chapter without a permit and does not conform to the  
31 requirements thereof.

32 Section 8A-7. Violations and Penalty.

1 Any person, firm, company, corporation or partnership  
2 in violation of the provisions of this Chapter and rules and  
3 regulations promulgated pursuant thereto shall be guilty of a  
4 misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be subject to a  
5 fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) or  
6 imprisonment for a period not exceeding six (6) months, or both.  
7 In addition thereto, the County may institute injunctive,  
8 mandamus, or any other appropriate action or proceedings at law or  
9 equity for the enforcement of this Chapter or to correct  
10 violations of this Chapter, and any court of competent jurisdiction  
11 shall have the right to issue restraining orders, temporary or  
12 permanent injunctions or other appropriate forms of remedy or  
13 relief.

14 Section 8A-8. Emergency Disconnections.

15 In cases of emergency where any electrical equipment,  
16 whether installed before or after the enactment of this Chapter,  
17 is an immediate threat to the safety of persons or property,  
18 or where it may interfere with the fire protection service of  
19 any fire department in the County, the Director shall have  
20 authority to cause such electrical equipment to be disconnected  
21 immediately and without notice to the owner thereof.

22 Section 8A-9. Fees.

23 (a) Prior to the issuance of any permit or license as  
24 provided for in this Chapter, the applicant therefor shall pay  
25 to Harford County, Maryland, a fee in accordance with the schedule  
26 of fees established and revised from time to time by the County  
27 Executive and approved by the County Council. However, the fees  
28 established for permits and licenses, as required by this Chapter,  
29 shall be reasonably calculated annually to provide sufficient  
30 funds to pay for the cost of administering and enforcing the  
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1 Electrical Code and the provisions of this Chapter.

2 (b) Where no work had been done under a permit issued  
3 under this Chapter, the holder of the permit may deliver same to  
4 the Department and upon cancellation thereof, there shall be  
5 refunded to him seventy-five percent (75%) of the fee paid therefor;  
6 provided, that application for such refund is made within six (6)  
7 months of the issuance of such permit.

8 Section 8A-10. Definitions.

9 (a) As used in this Chapter, the following words and  
10 phrases shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them  
11 by this Section.

12 (1) Apprentice Electrician. A person of at least  
13 sixteen (16) years of age who is employed by an electrical  
14 contractor to work under the supervision of a master and/or  
15 journeyman electrician, and who has been issued an apprentice  
16 identification card by the Department.

17 (2) Board. The term Board shall mean the Board of  
18 Electrical Examiners created in Chapter 2 of the Harford County  
19 Code.

20 (3) Department. The term Department shall mean  
21 the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits.

22 (4) Director. The term Director shall mean the  
23 Director of the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits.

24 (5) Electrical Contractor. A person principally  
25 engaged in the business of installing, repairing, maintaining and  
26 erecting electrical wiring, equipment, apparatus and systems  
27 designed for using or conducting electrical current and coming  
28 within the purview of the Electrical Code of Harford County.

29 (6) Electrical Equipment. The term electrical  
30 equipment shall include electrical conductors, raceways, wiring  
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1 fittings, devices, appliances, fixtures, apparatus and any other  
2 equipment coming within the purview of the Electrical Code of  
3 Harford County.

4 (7) Electrical Code. The term Electrical Code  
5 shall include the Harford County Code which includes the  
6 designated edition of the National Electrical Code as adopted and  
7 amended pursuant to this Chapter.

8 (8) Engaged in Business. A person, firm, company,  
9 corporation or partnership holding itself out to the public to  
10 furnish, install, repair or maintain, under verbal or written  
11 contract, electrical equipment. Such a contractor, if licensed  
12 as a master electrician, limited electrician or restricted  
13 electrician, may perform such work himself, or it may be performed  
14 by one or more of his employees under such supervision as may be  
15 required by the Electrical Code.

16 (9) Install. The term install shall include all  
17 installations of any or all electrical equipment or circuits, or  
18 any parts thereof, including new work, alterations, renewals or  
19 extensions coming within the purview of this Chapter and the  
20 National Electrical Code.

21 (10) Repair or Maintain. The terms repair or  
22 maintain shall include replacement or preservation of all existing  
23 electrical equipment or circuits, or any parts thereof coming  
24 within the purview of this Chapter and the National Electrical  
25 Code.

26 (11) Inspector. The term Inspector shall mean  
27 an authorized agent of the Department of Inspections, Licenses  
28 and Permits.

29 (12) Journeyman Electrician. A person licensed  
30 by Harford County as qualified to install, repair, maintain and  
31 erect electrical wiring, equipment, apparatus and systems, within  
32 the purview of the Electrical Code of Harford County, including



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1 but not limited to electrical raceways, conductors, fixtures,  
2 signs, motors, switchgears and distribution systems, fixed  
3 electric heating systems or any other fixed electrical equipment  
4 or apparatus which conducts or consumes electricity, all such  
5 activity being performed while under the direction and supervision  
6 of a master electrician. The term journeyman electrician applies  
7 only to that level of technical knowledge required to perform  
8 those functions provided for by law.

9 (13) Licensee. The term Licensee shall mean any  
10 person to whom a license has been issued hereunder.

11 (14) Master Electrician. A person licensed by  
12 Harford County as qualified to install, repair, maintain and  
13 erect electrical wiring, equipment, apparatus and systems within  
14 the purview of the Electrical Code of Harford County, including,  
15 but not limited to, electrical raceways, conductors, fixtures,  
16 signs, motors, switchgears and distribution systems, fixed electric  
17 heating systems or any other fixed electrical equipment or  
18 apparatus which conducts or consumes electricity.

19 (15) Limited Electrician. A person licensed by  
20 Harford County as qualified to install, repair and maintain a  
21 particular appliance, apparatus, device or fixture within the  
22 purview of the Harford County Electrical Code and limited to  
23 branch circuit wiring for automatic heating furnaces whose  
24 principal operation is derived from fuel oil, gas, steam or coal;  
25 refrigeration and air conditioning equipment, illuminated signs  
26 and similar specialities.

27 (16) Restricted Electrician. A person licensed by  
28 Harford County as qualified to maintain, repair, renew or replace  
29 the electrical wiring and equipment already installed by a master  
30 electrician, but in no case shall he be allowed to extend or  
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1 install any new electrical wiring or equipment and to do this  
2 restricted work in a designated place such as a plant, factory or  
3 apartment complex that employs maintenance forces.

4 (17) National Electrical Code. The currently  
5 designated edition of the National Electrical Code as adopted by  
6 law, including appendices and amendments adopted by law.

7 (18) Minor Repairs. The replacement of existing  
8 receptacles, snap switches, lighting fixtures or appliances to  
9 restore such equipment to its original state, but not to alter or  
10 increase the current draw on a branch circuit.

11 ARTICLE 2. BOARD OF ELECTRICAL EXAMINERS.

12 Section 8A-11. Composition.

13 (a) The Board of Electrical Examiners of Harford County  
14 shall consist of five (5) persons for the purpose of examining,  
15 regulating and controlling all persons who are engaged, or desire  
16 to engage, in the business of master electrician or limited and  
17 restricted types of electricians as defined in Article 1 of this  
18 Chapter. The Board shall be appointed by the County Executive of  
19 Harford County, Maryland, subject to confirmation of the County  
20 Council and when so appointed, shall consist of three (3) master  
21 electricians, actually working as such, who are residents of  
22 Harford County and whose principal place of business is located  
23 in Harford County; an architect who is a resident of Harford County;  
24 and an engineer who is a resident of Harford County, who is a  
25 professional engineer duly registered and licensed in accordance  
26 with the requirements of the State. The members of the Board shall  
27 be appointed for terms coterminous with that of the County  
28 Executive and any member may succeed himself in office for one (1)  
29 term. In case of vacancies, the County Executive shall make  
30 appointments for the remainder of the unexpired term.

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1 (b) The Chief Electrical Inspector shall be an ex  
2 officio, nonvoting member of the Board to insure coordination  
3 between the Board and the Inspection Agency.

4 (c) The Board shall elect its own chairman, vice-  
5 chairman and such other officers as it may desire. The vice-  
6 chairman shall, in the absence of the chairman, assume all the  
7 duties and responsibilities of the chairman.

8 (d) This Section shall not be construed to affect the  
9 terms of those members of the Board serving at the effective date  
10 of this law. All new appointments shall be made in accordance  
11 with its provisions.

12 (e) As compensation, each member of the Board may be  
13 compensated for reasonable and necessary expenses at such rate as  
14 the County Executive and County Council may determine.

15 Section 8A-12. Duties.

16 (a) The Board shall advise the Director on the issuance  
17 of licenses for journeyman electricians, master electricians,  
18 limited and restricted electricians, and shall ascertain by  
19 appropriate examination the qualifications and capabilities of  
20 all persons who desire such licenses.

21 (b) In the case of examinations for specialized limited  
22 licenses, the Board shall have the authority to consult or obtain  
23 the services of a recognized expert in the field to conduct said  
24 examination. Compensation for such individuals shall be at the  
25 rate established for an individual Board member.

26 (c) The Board shall advise the County Executive on the  
27 adoption of proposed rules and regulations to govern their  
28 activities regarding all actions of examinations or electricians'  
29 licenses.

30 (d) The Board shall meet at least once each month in  
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1 Bel Air and shall hold such special meetings as the proper and  
2 efficient discharge of its business requires.

3 Section 8A-13. Reciprocity.

4           The Board of Electrical Examiners shall certify to the  
5 Director any applicant as qualified to be licensed without  
6 examination by the Board, if such applicant is currently licensed  
7 in another jurisdiction in the State of Maryland, the  
8 qualification procedures which have been found by the Board to be  
9 equivalent to those required for licensing in Harford County,  
10 Maryland, and which grants similar reciprocity to Harford County  
11 licensees.

12 ARTICLE 3. LICENSES.

13 Section 8A-14. Applicability of Article.

14           (a) The licensing provisions contained herein shall  
15 apply to electrical work within the purview of the Electrical Code  
16 of the County and shall not apply to a person who installs, repairs  
17 or maintains, in his own single-family residence, electrical  
18 equipment owned by him and for his own or immediate family's use,  
19 provided that, before performing any such work, he shall apply  
20 to the Director for a permit where required by this Chapter. The  
21 Director shall require the applicant to show that the applicant  
22 is qualified to perform such work in a capable manner so as not to  
23 endanger the life and property belonging to public utility suppliers.  
24 If the Director finds that applicant is qualified to perform such  
25 work, a permit will be issued subject to compliance with all  
26 requirements of this Chapter. No permit shall be required for  
27 minor repairs, as defined in this Chapter.

28           (b) The provisions shall not apply to electrical instal-  
29 lations or work on equipment installed by, and for the use of, any  
30 public utility company regulated by the Public Service Commission  
31 of Maryland, or to accessory wiring and equipment necessary to  
32 operate the generation, transmission and distribution systems.

1 (c) Nothing in the licensing provisions contained herein  
2 shall be construed to exempt any electrical work in the County  
3 from complying with the requirements of the Harford County  
4 Electrical Code.

5 (d) Subject to the provisions contained in this Chapter,  
6 each license and renewal of same shall be in force and effect only  
7 as long as the approved bond, that has been filed with the Board,  
8 in accordance with the provisions of this Article, shall remain in  
9 full force and effect. Every such license or renewal of same  
10 shall become void and of no effect should any bond or insurance  
11 contract become inoperative, ineffective or cancelled, regardless  
12 of the regular date of expiration of said license.

13 (e) Any electrical installation in Harford County shall  
14 be accomplished under the supervision of at least one (1)  
15 licensed master or journeyman electrician as defined in this  
16 Chapter.

17 Section 8A-15. Electrician's License.

18 (a) There shall be four (4) classes of electrician's  
19 licenses:

20 (1) Master Electrician.

21 (2) Limited Electrician.

22 (3) Restricted Electrician.

23 (4) Journeyman Electrician.

24 (b) Before the Department shall issue or renew an  
25 electrician's license, it shall require the applicant to:

26 (1) Provide it with such current information as  
27 it shall require as to character references, experience, education,  
28 and training in or related to the construction, maintenance,  
29 installation or repair of all types of electrical equipment and  
30 apparatus, or in the case of an application for a limited license  
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1 or restricted license, such information as it relates to the  
2 particular type of installation applied for. All information  
3 supplied on or with the application shall be strictly confidential  
4 and shall be treated the same as personnel files.

5 (2) As determined by the Board, pass a written or  
6 oral examination conducted by the Board predicated upon the  
7 standards of the Harford County Electrical Code and rules and  
8 regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

9 (3) Pay to the County at the time of filing the  
10 application a nonrefundable fee in the amount as set forth in  
11 Chapter 13, Section 13-16 of the Code.

12 (4) Deliver to the County, on prescribed forms  
13 furnished by the Board, a bond in the amount of Two Thousand  
14 Dollars (\$2,000) in the case of a master electrician's license  
15 and One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) in the case of limited or  
16 restricted electrician's license. No bond shall be required for a  
17 journeyman electrician's license. The bond shall be conditioned  
18 upon the faithful performance of any and all work entered upon or  
19 contracted for by the licensee and shall render harmless and  
20 indemnify the owner, or real party in interest in the property for  
21 which any such material is furnished or service performed against  
22 loss, damage or injury which shall occur because of lack of skill,  
23 or because of failure to use suitable or proper material in the  
24 performance of any work contracted for or undertaken by any  
25 licensee, or his agents and employees.

26 (c) It shall be the duty of the Director upon receipt  
27 of an application for an electrician's license to investigate the  
28 character, experience, training and education of the applicant  
29 and to provide such information to the Board. Before the  
30 issuance of a license, it shall be the further duty of the Director  
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1 to ascertain from reliable sources the applicant's record of  
2 compliance with the laws of the State of Maryland and Harford  
3 County.

4 (d) It shall be the duty of the Board to certify to the  
5 Director within sixty (60) days after the date of the applicant's  
6 examination whether the applicant is qualified for the license  
7 applied for on the basis of said examination and the information  
8 provided it by the Director.

9 (e) In the case of applications for renewals of existing  
10 Harford County electrician's license, it shall be the duty of the  
11 Director to withhold issuance of such license upon a finding by  
12 the Board that said licensee has committed acts which are in  
13 violation of the provisions of this Chapter.

14 (f) All approvals or denials of said applications shall  
15 be personally served or mailed by certified mail to the address  
16 on the application. Any denial may be appealed to a Board of  
17 Arbitration, which shall consist of one (1) person selected by the  
18 person making the appeal, one (1) person selected by the Board and  
19 a third person to be selected by these two (2); and the decision  
20 of the Board of Arbitration, or a majority of its members, shall  
21 be final and binding upon all the parties to the appeal.

22 (g) In all instances where there is a requirement that an  
23 applicant for a license meet a preliminary time provision, it  
24 shall be the duty and responsibility of the applicant to provide  
25 statements of service and supervision of the persons under whom  
26 he was to have served and/or been supervised by. Such statements  
27 shall be signed under oath by the applicant and the person  
28 certifying to the period of service.

29 Section 8A-16. Master Electrician, Eligibility.

30 (a) Any person who desires to install, repair, maintain or  
31 erect electrical equipment as a master electrician, as defined by  
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1 this Chapter, may at any time make application to the Director to  
2 be examined and the Director shall provide the applicant with  
3 the prescribed forms.

4 (b) An applicant for examination for a master electrician  
5 license shall have been regularly and principally employed or  
6 engaged as a journeyman electrician in electrical construction,  
7 maintenance, installation and repair of all types of electrical  
8 equipment and apparatus, all coming within the purview of and  
9 subject to all provisions of this Chapter, for a period of not  
10 less than three (3) years preceding the date of his application,  
11 under the direction and supervision of a master electrician. The  
12 Board may substitute a formal course of study and training in  
13 electrical installation completed at a trade school or other  
14 educational institution for experience, if in the opinion of the  
15 Board such training provided comparable experience to that  
16 attainable under the supervision of a master electrician.  
17 Section 8A-17. Limited Electrician, Eligibility.

18 (a) Any person who desires to install, repair, maintain  
19 and erect electrical equipment as a limited electrician, as  
20 defined in this Chapter, may at any time make application to the  
21 Director to be examined, and the Director shall provide the  
22 applicant with the prescribed forms.

23 (b) An applicant may be licensed hereunder for a  
24 particular type of electrical installation or may be licensed for  
25 all types or as many types of limited electrical installations as  
26 defined herein and for which he shall be found qualified by the  
27 Board. He shall have been regularly and principally employed for  
28 three (3) years preceding application in area of limitation. The  
29 type of limited licenses shall be set forth in regulations  
30 promulgated by the County, as set forth in this Chapter, upon  
31 recommendation by the Board. Particular license classifications  
32 shall include, without limiting, licenses for electrical



1 connections and circuits to air conditioning, elevators, gasoline  
2 pumps, automatic heating furnaces whose principal operation is  
3 derived from fuel oil, gas, steam or coal, illuminated signs and  
4 similar specialities.

5 Section 8A-18. Restricted Electrician, Eligibility.

6 (a) Any person who desires to maintain, repair, renew or  
7 replace electrical wiring or equipment as a restricted electrician  
8 as defined in this Chapter may at any time make application to  
9 the Director to be examined, and the Director shall provide the  
10 applicant with the prescribed forms.

11 (b) An applicant may be licensed hereunder only to a  
12 particular place which will be noted on the license certificate.  
13 He shall have been regularly and principally employed or engaged  
14 in electrical construction or maintenance for three (3) years  
15 preceding application for this license. Restricted licenses  
16 shall be set forth in regulations promulgated by the County, as  
17 set forth in this Chapter, upon recommendation by the Board.

18 Section 8A-19. Journeyman Electrician, Eligibility.

19 (a) Any person who desires to install, repair, maintain  
20 or erect electrical equipment as a journeyman electrician, as  
21 defined by this Chapter, may at any time make application to the  
22 Director to be examined, and the Director shall provide the  
23 applicant with the prescribed forms.

24 (b) An applicant for examination for a journeyman  
25 electrician license shall have been regularly and principally  
26 employed or engaged in electrical construction, maintenance,  
27 installation and repair of all types of electrical equipment and  
28 apparatus, all coming within the purview and subject to all  
29 provisions of this Chapter, for a period of not less than one  
30 (1) year under the supervision of a master electrician, OR  
31 EQUIVALENT WORK EXPERIENCE ACCEPTABLE TO THE ELECTRICAL BOARD.

32 Section 8A-20. Examinations.

1 the Department and shall be available for inspection upon request  
2 made to the Board by the applicant for a period of six (6) months  
3 after the date of the examination.

4 (g) The fee for examination for any class of license  
5 issued under this subtitle and the fees for issuance and renewal  
6 of all classes of licenses authorized in this subtitle shall be  
7 set forth in Chapter 13, Section 13-16 of the Harford County Code.  
8 Section 8A-21. Term of Licenses.

9 (a) All licenses shall expire on April 30 of each year and  
10 renewals thereafter shall be effective May 1 through April 30 of  
11 each year. Applicants for licenses and renewals thereof shall pay  
12 to Harford County, Maryland, a fee for a master electrician's  
13 license, limited electrician's license and journeyman electrician's  
14 license and restricted electrician's license as provided for by  
15 the County fee schedule.

16 (b) No person, firm, company, corporation, partnership,  
17 owner, lessee or agent shall be denied the privilege of continuing  
18 a contract business or maintenance or repair work in the event of  
19 death, illness or other physical disability of the master electri-  
20 cian, limited electrician or restricted electrician who qualified  
21 the person, firm, company, corporation or partnership for such  
22 license, for a period not exceeding one hundred twenty (120) days  
23 following the date of such death, illness or physical disability,  
24 provided said business, maintenance or repair work is conducted  
25 under such qualified supervision as the Board deems adequate and  
26 provided that all requirements concerning bonds and business insur-  
27 ance are first complied with and the Department is notified promptly  
28 by the licensee upon such death, illness or physical disability.

29 (c) A person, firm, company, corporation or partnership  
30 shall be allowed to continue a business or to perform maintenance  
31 and repair work for a period not exceeding ninety (90) days should  
32 the master electrician, limited electrician or restricted

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1 electrician who qualified the person, firm, company, corporation  
2 or partnership, for such license terminate his services therefrom,  
3 provided such business, maintenance or repair work is conducted  
4 under such qualified supervision as the Board deems adequate and  
5 provided that both of the following requirements are met:

6 (1) All bonding and insurance requirements are  
7 complied with.

8 (2) The master electrician, limited electrician or  
9 restricted electrician who qualified shall notify the Board in  
10 writing within five (5) days after terminating his services  
11 therewith; or the person, firm, company, corporation or partnership  
12 shall notify the Board in writing within five (5) days after  
13 the said master electrician, limited electrician or restricted  
14 electrician has terminated his services.

15 (d) No license issued under this Chapter shall be  
16 assigned or transferred.

17 (e) No license shall be renewed for any person, firm,  
18 company, corporation or partnership until all of the requirements  
19 of this Chapter have been complied with.

20 (f) A licensee may, by notifying the Board in writing,  
21 declare his license(s) inactive. During the period such license  
22 or licenses remain inactive, the yearly renewal fee as required by  
23 Harford County shall be paid. Bonding required by this Chapter  
24 shall be waived for the period said license remains inactive. No  
25 license shall be deemed inactive unless all work for which permits  
26 have been issued has been completed and has received final  
27 inspection and approval by the Department.

28 (g) The Director shall keep a register of all licenses  
29 placed on or removed from inactive status and of any master  
30 electrician, limited electrician or restricted electrician who  
31 changes his affiliation as a qualifying representative of a person,  
32 company, firm, corporation or partnership. A license placed on the

1 inactive list may be returned to active status upon certification  
2 by the Board and upon proper notification and application in  
3 writing by the licensee to the Department. All requirements of this  
4 Article shall be complied with before said license shall be restored  
5 to active status by the Department.

6 (h) Subject to provisions of Section 8A-24 of this  
7 Chapter, the Department may renew licenses under this Chapter to  
8 any applicant who at the effective date of this Act held an  
9 existing Harford County electrician's license.

10 Section 8A-22. Licenses; Display and Duplicates.

11 (a) All holders of licenses issued under this Chapter  
12 shall display the license in a prominent place at their business  
13 location and upon demand shall give the number of the license to  
14 any inspector of the Department.

15 (b) All holders of master electrician, limited electrician,  
16 restricted electrician and journeyman electrician licenses shall  
17 have identification cards issued by the Department in their  
18 possession at all times while performing electrical work within  
19 the County and shall display same, upon request, to authorized  
20 Department personnel.

21 (c) If a license is lost, defaced or destroyed, a licensee  
22 in good standing may obtain a duplicate upon filing an application  
23 to the Director and payment of the cost of replacement.

24 Section 8A-23. Apprentice Identification Card.

25 (a) Any person who desires to be registered with the  
26 County as being engaged in a program of apprenticeship in  
27 connection with his employment with a licensed electrical  
28 contractor, as defined by this Chapter, may at any time make  
29 application to the Director on forms provided by the Department.

30 (b) The Department, upon payment of a nonrefundable fee  
31 as set forth in the County fee schedule, shall issue to the  
32 applicant an apprentice identification card, renewable

1 annually, and shall require that records be kept regarding the  
2 nature of the electrical work being performed by the apprentice  
3 electrician.

4 Section 8A-24. Revocation or Suspension of License.

5 (a) The Board may suspend, revoke or refuse to  
6 renew any license if the holder has secured such license by  
7 misrepresentation; failed to maintain the qualifications required by  
8 this Chapter; demonstrated a lack of competence inconsistent with  
9 retention of the license; engaged in fraudulent business activities  
10 or in misleading advertising of products or services; violated the  
11 provisions of this Chapter requiring permits; committed an act of  
12 gross negligence or condoned such an act by an employee; permitted  
13 any unlicensed or unauthorized person, firm, company, corporation  
14 or partnership to obtain a certificate or permit or perform  
15 electrical work under the authority of his license; or failed to  
16 be available to supervise electrical work in accordance with this  
17 Chapter.

18 (b) Before ordering the revocation or suspension of an  
19 existing electrician's license or the disapproval of any  
20 application to renew such license, the Board shall afford the  
21 licensee an opportunity for a hearing before the Board to show  
22 cause why the license should not be suspended or revoked or  
23 renewal denied. The Board shall give at least ten (10) days  
24 written notice to the licensee by certified mail or personal  
25 service at the last address on file with the Director and such  
26 notice shall state the complaint and alleged violation.

27 (1) The Board shall provide for:

28 (A) A hearing, afforded to the licensees.

29 (B) Licensee shall have the right to be  
30 represented by counsel and present evidence on his behalf.

31 (C) If the Board orders a suspension,  
32 revocation or denial of application for renewal, the Board shall

1 (a) The written and/or oral examination conducted by the  
2 Board for either the master electrician's, limited electrician's,  
3 restricted electrician's or journeyman electrician's license shall  
4 be based upon standards of the Harford County Electrical Code.

5 (b) In order to qualify as having passed said examination,  
6 the applicant shall receive a grade constituting at least  
7 seventy-five percent (75%) of the total possible point credits  
8 in the examination.

9 (c) The use of any unauthorized material or cheating by  
10 an applicant during his examination shall cause the immediate  
11 rejection of his application and bar him from re-examination for  
12 six (6) months.

13 (d) Regular examination periods shall be held at least  
14 three (3) times each year at intervals of not greater than four  
15 (4) months. Written notice of the date, hour and place of  
16 examination shall be mailed to each eligible applicant at least  
17 ten (10) days prior to the date of the examination.

18 (e) Any applicant who fails to pass any examination shall  
19 be afforded an opportunity to take re-examination. Any person  
20 taking such a re-examination shall apply to the Director for  
21 permission to do so and shall pay the required fee. An applicant  
22 who has failed an examination shall not be entitled to  
23 re-examination until the following periods have elapsed from the  
24 date of the previous examination:

25 (1) Not less than three (3) months after the first  
26 examination.

27 (2) Not less than six (6) months after the second  
28 examination.

29 (3) Not less than twelve (12) months after the  
30 third and succeeding examinations.

31 (f) All written examinations and applicant records  
32 pertaining thereto shall be stored under secured conditions within

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1 make specific written findings of the cause why the suspension,  
2 revocation or denial is ordered.

3 (c) The Board may require at any time that a master  
4 electrician, limited electrician, restricted electrician or  
5 journeyman electrician be re-examined for good cause; and, if  
6 such licensee fails to pass the re-examination, his license or  
7 licenses may be revoked. A person whose electrician's license  
8 has been revoked shall become eligible after ninety (90) days  
9 has elapsed from the date of revocation to apply for a new  
10 license. Such application shall be considered a new application  
11 and shall be submitted pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter.

12 (d) Any person, firm, company, corporation or partnership  
13 to whom a license has been denied or whose license has been  
14 revoked or suspended or any such person, firm, company, corporation  
15 or partnership who believes himself aggrieved by any action of the  
16 Board or Director may appeal to the County Council by filing a  
17 notice of such appeal with the Secretary of the County Council  
18 within ten (10) days from the date of receipt of notice of the  
19 action of the Board or Director. Notice of action of the Board or  
20 Director shall be personally served or be mailed by certified mail  
21 to the last address on file with the Board.

22 ARTICLE 4. PERMITS.

23 Section 8A-25. General Requirements.

24 (a) Required. Except as provided in Section 8A-1 of this  
25 Chapter, no electrical equipment which is subject to the  
26 provisions of this Chapter shall be installed until a permit  
27 therefor has been issued by the Department.

28 (b) Application. All applications for permits shall be  
29 in writing and in such form as may be prescribed by the Department.  
30 All applications except those by homeowners pursuant to Section  
31 8A-14 shall be signed by a master electrician, limited  
32 electrician or restricted electrician. Each application shall

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1 describe the work to be done and the location thereof and shall be  
2 accompanied by such plans, specifications and schedules as shall be  
3 necessary to determine whether the installation will be in  
4 conformity with the provisions of this Chapter.

5 (c) Contents; Conformity with Permits; Expiration Upon  
6 Noncommencement of Work; etc. Each permit shall describe with  
7 particularity the installation to be done thereunder and no person  
8 shall install any electrical equipment other than in accordance  
9 with the permit. All permits shall expire and be null and void  
10 unless the work authorized thereunder is commenced within six (6)  
11 months from the date of issuance; provided, that the Department  
12 may upon good cause shown, extend a permit one (1) or more times  
13 for periods not exceeding sixty (60) days.

14 (d) Repairs Exempted. No permit shall be required to  
15 repair portable electrical equipment or lighting fixtures, or to  
16 repair or replace sockets, receptacles or snap switches, or to  
17 make other minor repairs at existing outlets, or to repair motors,  
18 or to replace motors no larger than one (1) horsepower, and of the  
19 same horsepower rating.

20 Section 8A-26. Same - Emergency Work, etc.

21 When necessary to make emergency repairs or replacements  
22 to electrical installations, or to make branch circuit extensions  
23 for switches, receptacles or the like, incidental to such  
24 emergency work, such work may be done without a permit; provided  
25 that the person doing the same shall first inform the Department  
26 either orally or in writing at the time of such emergency giving  
27 his name and address and the address where the work is to be done,  
28 the nature thereof and when it is to be started. Such person  
29 shall file an application for a permit covering such emergency  
30 work on the first business day following the performance thereof.

31 Section 8A-27. Same - Temporary Installations.

32 A temporary permit shall be required in connection with



1 electrical equipment installed for a temporary use for a  
2 period not to exceed six (6) months. Such permit may be extended  
3 for an additional period of six (6) months by the Department.

4 ARTICLE 5. INSPECTIONS.

5 Section 8A-28. Notice Upon Completion and Inspection of  
6 Installations Generally.

7         Upon the completion of an installation regulated by this  
8 Chapter, it shall be unlawful for the holder of a permit issued  
9 hereunder to fail to notify the Department of such completion.  
10 The Department shall cause the installation to be inspected  
11 within forty-eight (48) hours of such notice, exclusive of  
12 Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, or as soon thereafter as  
13 practicable.

14 Section 8A-29. Inspection of Covered Installations.

15         (a) When any part of an installation regulated by this  
16 Chapter is to be hidden from view by the permanent placement of  
17 part of a building, the person making the installation shall  
18 notify the Department; and such installation shall not be concealed  
19 until it has been inspected and approved by the Department;  
20 provided that on large installations where the concealment of  
21 electrical equipment proceeds continuously, the person installing  
22 the same shall give the Department notice thereof so that  
23 inspections may be made periodically during the progress of the  
24 work.

25         (b) The Department shall have the authority to remove, or  
26 require the removal of, any structure that prevents proper  
27 inspection of any electrical equipment.

28 Section 8A-30. Inspection of Industrialized Buildings.

29         The inspection of industrialized buildings by inspectors  
30 of the Department may be required from time to time in accordance  
31 with the Harford County Code where such structures have not been  
32 approved by an acceptable inspection agency.

## 1 Section 8A-31. Cut-In Certificates.

2 (a) No electric light or power company shall supply  
3 electricity or power to any electrical equipment for the  
4 installation of which a permit is required under this Chapter,  
5 and no person shall connect any such electrical equipment to a  
6 supply of electricity or power, except in accordance with a  
7 cut-in certificate issued by the Department.

8 (b) If, after the inspection, the Department finds the  
9 installation to be in conformity with the provisions of this  
10 Chapter, it shall issue a cut-in certificate therefor, authorizing  
11 the use of the installation and its connection to the supply of  
12 electricity and power and shall send such certificate to the  
13 electric light or power company supplying the same. Such  
14 certificates may be issued for an entire installation or part  
15 thereof.

16 (c) Temporary cut-in certificates shall be issued for  
17 temporary installations authorized pursuant to Section 8A-26 of  
18 this Chapter and such certificates shall set forth their  
19 expiration date, shall expire upon such date unless extended, and  
20 shall be cancelled by the Director at any time if the installation  
21 is not maintained as required by this Chapter.

## 22 Section 8A-32. Defective Installations and Equipment.

23 (a) If, upon inspection, any installation for which a  
24 permit is required under this Chapter is found to be in violation  
25 of the provisions of this Chapter, the Department shall notify the  
26 holder of the permit of the nature of such violation in writing  
27 and the same shall be corrected within the time limit specified on  
28 the notice.

29 (b) If the Director finds that any electrical equipment  
30 installed before or after the enactment of this Chapter is  
31 dangerous to persons or property because of being defective or  
32 improperly used or installed, he shall notify the owner or lessee

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1 of the property in writing, setting forth the nature of such  
2 dangerous condition, and such person shall make such changes or  
3 repairs as are necessary to put such equipment in a safe condition  
4 within such period as may be specified by the Director.

5 (c) Upon failure of any person to comply with a notice  
6 issued pursuant to this Section, the Director shall revoke any  
7 permit which has been issued for the installation of such  
8 equipment, shall not issue any cut-in certificate, or shall revoke  
9 any such certificate which has been previously issued.

10 (d) If the equipment or installation is connected to a  
11 supply of electricity or power, the Director shall have the  
12 authority to disconnect the same and shall send notice to the  
13 electric light or power companies to discontinue its supply of  
14 electricity or power to such equipment or installation, and such  
15 supply of electricity or power shall be terminated within  
16 twenty-four (24) hours of the receipt of such notice without  
17 liability therefor on the part of such electric light or power  
18 company.

19 (e) Pursuant to the provisions of this Article, if it  
20 has been determined that in fact there were no inspections made  
21 that are required by the provisions of this entire Chapter, then  
22 the inspector and the master electrician shall be personally  
23 liable for any damages that may result.

24 ARTICLE 6. STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR INSTALLATION OF  
25 ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT.

26 Section 8A-33. Generally.

27 (a) It shall be unlawful for anyone to install electrical  
28 equipment not having the certification of an inspection authority  
29 approved by the Department.

30 (b) The standards and requirements of this Chapter shall  
31 be based upon the currently designated edition of the National  
32 Electrical Code and amendments thereto as adopted by law and are

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1 hereby declared to be minimum standards and requirements. Any  
2 electrical equipment or installation which is equal or superior  
3 to such standards and requirements shall be deemed to be in  
4 compliance therewith.

5 (c) Except as otherwise provided in this Chapter,  
6 conformity of installations of electrical equipment with such Code  
7 and regulations adopted pursuant to this Chapter shall be  
8 prima facie evidence that such installations are reasonably safe  
9 to persons and property.

10 Section 8A-34. Mobile Homes, Prefabricated or Modular Dwellings.

11 (a) The Department may inspect mobile homes, prefabricated  
12 or modular dwellings, buildings or other such structures intended  
13 for sale or use in Harford County at the place of manufacture  
14 and prior to the concealment of electrical installations in any  
15 such mobile homes, prefabricated or modular dwellings by means of  
16 a qualified inspector employed by the County. Prior to  
17 concealment of electrical installations by the manufacturer, the  
18 inspector shall issue a letter of acceptance for those installations  
19 visible to and approved by the inspector.

20 (b) Those mobile homes, prefabricated or modular dwellings,  
21 buildings or other such structures not inspected prior to  
22 concealment of electrical installations shall be accepted for only  
23 those electrical installations visible to and approved by the  
24 inspector at the time of inspection, and such approval if granted  
25 shall be indicated in a letter of acceptance from the Department.

26 (c) As an alternative to the procedure prescribed by  
27 subsection (a) or (b) above, the manufacturer may request  
28 inspection by Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc. or certification by  
29 a State-approved inspection agency such as Underwriters'  
30 Laboratories, Inc. to assure that electrical installations conform  
31 to the standards and requirements of the Harford County Electrical  
32 Code as adopted and in force in Harford County. Such inspection

1 shall be sufficient evidence of compliance with the provisions of  
2 this Section, except that County inspection shall be required when  
3 installation is accomplished at the home site.

4 (d) Nothing herein shall be construed to require the  
5 inspection of electrical installations in mobile homes,  
6 prefabricated or modular dwellings, buildings or other structures  
7 by Harford County, nor shall anything herein be construed to limit  
8 the right to inspection conferred by any other Section or Chapter  
9 of the Harford County Code or other applicable law.

10 Section 2. *And Be It Further Enacted*, that if any provision or  
11 provisions of this Act, or the particular application thereof,  
12 shall be held to be invalid, the remaining provisions and their  
13 application shall not be affected thereby. Should any provision  
14 hereof be inconsistent with any rule, regulation or policy of  
15 any other agency having jurisdiction, such provision shall be  
16 invalid, but the remaining provisions and their application shall  
17 not be affected thereby.

18 Section 3. *And Be It Further Enacted*, that this Act shall take  
19 effect sixty (60) calendar days from the date it becomes law.

20 EFFECTIVE: July 22, 1977  
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LIBER 3 PAGE 586

BY THE COUNCIL

Read the third time.

Passed 77-13 May 3, 1977 (with amendments)

~~Failed of Passage~~

By order

Angela Markowski, Secretary

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive  
for his approval this 4th day of May, 1977  
at 3:00 o'clock P.M.



Angela Markowski, Secretary

BY THE EXECUTIVE

APPROVED:

[Signature]  
County Executive

Date 5-23-77

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been approved by the Executive  
and returned to the Council, becomes law on May 23, 1977.

Angela Markowski  
Angela Markowski, Council Secretary

EFFECTIVE: July 22, 1977

Rec'd for record 7/29/77 at 9:10 A.  
Same day recorded & examined  
H. Douglas Chilcoat, Clerk